

**THE CHEST—A Handbook of Roentgen Diagnosis—2nd Edition.** Leo Rigler, M.D., Professor and Chief, Department of Radiology, University of Minnesota. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois, Chicago, 1954. 380 pages, \$8.00.

The combination of the brief text or handbook with the well-illustrated atlas is a desirable method of presenting certain subjects. The present volume exemplifies this method in neat fashion.

After the usual type of introduction, with consideration of methods of fluoroscopy and roentgenography, there is an excellent section dealing with normal observations of the chest from the roentgenological viewpoint. This is followed by a series of sections on pathologic conditions, in which the various pulmonary systems (bronchi, parenchyma, pleura, mediastinum and so forth) are completely illustrated.

The section on normal bronchography has some new illustrations of the anatomy of the tracheobronchial tree. Some of the segmental bronchi carry numbers at variance with those recommended by the International Committee. With all due respect to Boyden and the author, this must be regarded as unfortunate. At any rate, it might have been desirable to carry both sets of drawings in order that the student and practicing physician might be able to use a terminology consistent with a majority of the literature.

This second edition appears about eight years after the first; it has twenty-eight more pages and several more illustrations, all of excellent quality. The author is Professor and Chief of the Department of Radiology at the University of Minnesota.

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**PRACTICAL METHODS IN BIOCHEMISTRY—6th Edition.** Frederick C. Koch, late Frank P. Hixon Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry, University of Chicago, and Martin E. Hanke, Associate Professor of Biochemistry, University of Chicago. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1953. 537 pages, \$5.00.

The fact that this is the sixth edition of this laboratory manual indicates its value and popularity. Although a laboratory text in biochemistry, the theory behind each test or group of tests is briefly but clearly discussed, thus emphasizing the significance of the text. The book is comprehensive and especially well designed for students specializing in biochemistry. For medical students, there are illustrative experiments which can be selected for the limited laboratory time in the medical curriculum. Many of the tests described are of little interest to the practical-minded medical student. Experiments are grouped in four parts: The Chemistry of Cell Constituents, The Chemistry of the Digestive Tract, Blood and Urine, and Enzymes, Vitamins and Hormones. An appendix gives general laboratory directions, together with directions for preparation of laboratory reagents, a table of atomic weights and a table of logarithms. There is an extensive index.

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**BALLISTOCARDIOGRAPHY—The Application of the Direct Ballistocardiograph to Clinical Medicine—**William Dock, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.P., Professor of Medicine, New York State University College of Medicine; Harry Mandelbaum, M.D., F.A.C.P., Lecturer in Medicine, New York State University College of Medicine; and Robert A. Mandelbaum, M.D., Assistant in Medicine, Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1953. 293 pages, 153 illustrations, \$9.50.

Only a few years ago Dr. Dock and his colleagues discovered that ballistocardiography need not remain in the research laboratory with expensive equipment, but that it could become of great clinical interest and even value. Their discovery, based on remarkable ingenuity in the application of physical principles to simple gadgets, has produced such

a flood of studies that scarcely a month passes without a paper on ballistocardiography in some medical journal.

In this most unusual book, the authors present in clear detail their findings in all types of subjects and patients. They not only discuss the application of ballistocardiography to clinical medicine, but also range far beyond the book's title to add to the reader's knowledge of practical cardiology, cardiac physiology and physics. No wild claims are made for the diagnostic or prognostic merits of the method; in fact, physicians are repeatedly warned that ballistocardiograms constitute but one part of an examination and must be interpreted in the light of other findings. As with the electrocardiogram, normal records may accompany heart disease and vice versa. Unlike the electrocardiogram, a ballistocardiogram is related to ejection of blood from the heart and far exceeds the former in recording the pumping activity of that organ.

Among its many chapters, the volume includes those on techniques, interpretation, physiological relations, and the effects of cardiac and pulmonary diseases and of smoking on the records. The book is well illustrated, with a satisfactory index and bibliography. It is highly recommended to all medical physiologists and clinicians, and should be required reading for everyone with a ballistocardiograph.

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**THE PSYCHOLOGY AND PSYCHOTHERAPY OF OTTO RANK—**Fay B. Karpf, Ph.D., Philosophical Library, New York, 1953. 129 pages, \$3.00.

The emergence and development of psychoanalysis as a psychotherapeutic technique attracted many disciples to the leadership of Sigmund Freud whose interest and energy and powerful personality won him vast prestige and the title "master." Among those early disciples were three fated to reject one or another or all of the master's foundation concepts which may be summarized as (1) the unconscious, (2) repression, (3) psychosexuality, (4) therapeutics, resistance and transference, insight interpretation, free association, and dream analysis. Freud later restated some of these to fit into his theories of ego, id, and superego.

The diversionists Jung and Adler were medically trained, and like Freud himself primarily concerned with psychoanalysis as a healing technique.

The third rebel, Otto Rank, was not medically trained, his preparation was varied, mathematics, logic, and the humanities with emphasis on anthropology providing most of his background. He accepted the biological slant that influenced his early work piecemeal from Freud, a fact that accounts for the very apparent contradictions in his teachings.

However, always he was more interested in the essential theoretic aspects of psychoanalysis than in therapy which he saw always as an educational technique used to help persons adjust by will and effort in the culture in which they must live. This point of view was greatly reinforced when Rank came to live among non-Germans in France and in the United States.

More and more he was revolted by what he considered cynicism and dogmatism of the Freudian gospel. Rank's teachings, however, have been influential in American social psychology and the thought of the present neo-Freudians.

Even Freud's concepts often show the effects of Rank's philosophy but when the disciple refutes the premise of the unconscious, the sexuality theories, and female inferiority, the break was inescapable and not to be healed. The bitter recrimination that followed the defection of Jung and Adler, however, was escaped.

This is a well organized, interestingly written book, is well worth reading by anyone concerned with the psychological approach to the problems of behavior.